

of M.'s going to England. M. has introduced me to most of the neighbouring gentry, and receives with a loud laugh any mention of my return to Edinburgh. I dined with Dr. Brewster the other day. He has a pretty place neap Melrose. It is impossible for me to give you any written idea of the beauty and unique character of Abbotsford.

His father was delighted with these letters from the 'young plenipotentiary.' 'I know nothing against him but his youth,' he wrote to Murray, 'a fault which a few seasons of experience will infallibly correct; but I have observed that the habits and experience he has acquired as a lawyer often greatly serve him on matters of business. His views are vast, but they are based on good sense, and he is most determinedly serious when he sets to work.' Still more interesting is Murray's own opinion of his youthful partner.

*John Murray to J. G.
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I left my young friend Disraeli to make his own way with you, confident that, if my estimation of him were correct, you would not be long in finding him out. But as you have received him with so much kindness and favour, I think it right to confirm the good opinion which you appear so early to have formed of him, by communicating to you a little of my own. And I may frankly say, that I never met with a young man of greater promise, from the sterling qualifications which he already possesses. He is a good scholar, hard student, a deep thinker, of great energy, equal perseverance, and indefatigable application, and a complete man of business. His knowledge of human nature, and the practical tendency of all his ideas, have often surprised me in a young

man who has hardly passed his twentieth year, and above all, his mind and heart are as pure as when they were first formed; a most excellent temper, too, and with young people, by whom he is universally loved, as playful as a child. I have been acquainted with him from his birth, but it is only within the last twelve months that I have known him. I can pledge my honour, therefore, with the assurance that he is worthy of any degree of confidence that you may be induced to repose in him — discretion being another of his qualifications. If our great plan should take effect I am certain that you will